

Address of Receiving Entity: 4901-D Corporate Drive, Huntsville, AL 35806

Description of Request: Provide \$3,120,001 for the Enhanced Rapid Tactical Integration for Fielding of Systems (ERTIFS). Funding will leverage and evolve ERTIFS developed Aviation and Missile interoperability technologies and systems. Funding will be used for engineering and development of the Army Battle Command System—Brigade Architecture (ABCS-BA), procurement, integration and testing of the ABCS-BA hardware, and ABCS-BA project to support four additional types of required interoperability Tests: 1) Individual System, 2) System of Systems (e.g., Software Blocking), 3) Backwards Compatibility—Interoperability and 4) Regression Testing.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
WEAR RED DAY TO PROMOTE
WOMEN'S HEART HEALTH AND
HEALTH PARITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me as I recognize National Wear Red Day this Friday, February 5, to raise awareness of and support women's heart health.

Heart disease is the number one killer of women. In Michigan, more than 43 women die each day from heart disease and stroke. In fact, since 1984, more women than men die of heart disease each year and the gap between men and women's survival continues to widen.

These deaths are largely preventable. For too long, medical professionals and the public at large have viewed heart disease as a "man's disease." This attitude is still manifested today. Women comprise only 24 percent of participants in all heart-related studies. Women wait longer than men to go to an emergency room when having a heart attack and physicians are slower to recognize the presence of heart attacks in women because "characteristic" patterns of chest pain and EKG changes are less frequently present. After heart attack, women are less likely than men to receive beta blockers, ACE inhibitors and aspirin—therapies known to improve survival. This contributes to a higher rate of complications after heart attacks in women, even after adjusting for age. Consequently, 38 percent of women, compared to 25 percent of men, will die within one year of a first recognized heart attack.

Heart health is just one area of the health care disparities between men and women, so the Wear Red Campaign is critical to leveling that playing field. But along with heart health, we must do more to ensure health parity for women in all aspects of health care. So, I am so proud today to stand with the American Heart Association and the hundreds of thousands of women and men who support this important cause and I am proud to continue to fight in Congress and support health parity for women in all aspects of health care.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, due to other business, I missed one vote on February 3, 2010. Had I been able to, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 34, an amendment offered by Mr. HASTINGS (D-FL) to the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2009 (H.R. 4016).

INNOVATIVE EFFORT TO IN-
CREASE EMPLOYMENT OF PEOP-
LE WITH DISABILITIES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I would like to draw my colleagues' attention to a new and extremely innovative campaign to encourage businesses to employ workers with disabilities. I also want to congratulate Health and Disability Advocates for overseeing the campaign. Health and Disability Advocates, a non-profit organization located in Chicago, is a leading voice on disability issues and, under the talented leadership of Barbara Otto, has been a valuable resource for Illinois and the nation.

As of December 2008, 54.4 million people in the United States—18.7 percent of our population, or nearly one in five Americans—reported some level of disability. Official figures show that unemployment among persons with a disability was 13.8 percent this past November, compared to 9.5 percent among non-disabled people, but this doesn't include many people who are too discouraged to even look for work. When disabled persons are employed, promotion opportunities may be scarce.

The cost of employing a person with a disability is minimal, averaging only \$313 in 2007. Employees with disabilities had nearly identical job performance ratings to those without disabilities according to a 2007 study by DePaul University researchers. Employers say that employing a disabled person is well worth the expense, finding these individuals to be loyal, reliable, and hard-working, serving long tenures with low absenteeism rates. Additionally, hiring disabled employees serves to diversify the work environment, which has an overall positive impact.

Health and Disability Advocates has undertaken a campaign to highlight the importance of hiring people with disabilities that is imaginative and persuasive. I hope that my colleagues will take an opportunity to read the following article that ran in the New York Times on January 29 to read about it.

USING HUMOR IN A CAMPAIGN SUPPORTING
DISABLED PEOPLE

A national effort to encourage businesses to employ workers with disabilities is not your father's hire the handicapped campaign.

One difference is that the new ads are paid rather than pro bono, with an estimated budget of \$4 million for the first two quarters of 2010. The ads will appear on tele-

vision, in print, online and outdoors; there is also a sponsorship deal with NPR.

The ads are being financed largely by agencies in 30 states that provide employment services as well as health and human services to their citizens who are disabled. The agencies have set a goal of raising \$10 million for the campaign's budget for the full year.

Typically, ads that seek to make a case for employing people with disabilities run as public service announcements. That makes them dependent on the kindness of media outlets to place them prominently on television, in print or online.

"We'll never have enough money to oversaturate the media," said Barbara Otto, executive director at Health and Disability Advocates in Chicago, which is overseeing the campaign, "but we wanted to do something different, something that didn't look like a P.S.A."

To that end, the campaign takes a light-hearted tack rather than a sober or earnest tone. The ads try to challenge conventional wisdom about workers with disabilities by offering humorous examples of people with "differences" already employed.

For instance, in a television commercial, a worker in a wheelchair points out her colleagues who "you could label as 'different.'" Among them are a woman dressed in a night-mare wardrobe of clashing patterns, who is "fashion deficient"; a klutzy young man at the copier, who is "copy incapable"; and a shouting man who suffers from "volume control syndrome."

The punch line of the commercial is that the worker in the wheelchair is different, too: Her skills at a basic office function are so bad that she is labeled "coffee-making impaired."

Print ads introduce employers to a man in a suit whose awkward dance moves make him "rhythm impaired" and an awkward man who is hard to understand because he is "jargon prone."

The text of the ads elaborates on the point the campaign strives to make.

The ad with the worker who is rhythm impaired declares: "Just because someone moves a little differently doesn't mean they can't help move your business forward. The same goes for people with disabilities."

The ad with the jargon-spouting worker reads: "Just because someone talks differently doesn't mean they don't bring something of value to the conversation. The same goes for people with disabilities."

The tongue-in-cheek differences in each ad appear as Dymo-style labels across the faces of the employees, to set up the theme of the campaign, "Think beyond the label." The theme is repeated in the address of a microsite, or special Web site (thinkbeyondthelabel.com), where additional information is available about, as the home page puts it, "just how silly labels can be."

The concept was tested, Ms. Otto, said "to get that employment decision-maker thinking that everyone in the workplace is different," but not so much that it would make anyone—with disabilities or otherwise—feel uncomfortable.

"We knew it needed to be disruptive," Ms. Otto said, "but we wanted it to be tasteful." In the research, "people said they liked the funny and human tone," she added.

The tenor of the campaign was endorsed by the actor in the wheelchair, Alana Wallace, who is an advocate for people with disabilities as well as a performer.

"I knew I needed to be a part of this campaign," Ms. Wallace said, because "there were enough of the pity-party approaches" to the subject.

The commercial "speaks to our similarities in that we all have a label someone